Strange and Lamentable

NEWS

FROM

Dullidg-Wells;

OR,

The Cruel and Barbarous Father.

A True Relation

How a person which used to cry *Dullidg* water about the Streets of *London*, Kill'd his own Son, on Tuesday the Second of this instant *July*, in a most inhumane manner, for which he was the next day Committed, and now remains a Prisoner, in order to a Tryal.

Together with an

ACCOUNT

OF

Another Sad Accident that lately happened at *Eromly* by *Bow*, where a person being much in Debt, and severely haunted by his Creditors, Hang'd himself in a Mulberry-tree, *&c.*

With Allowance.

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Strange and Lamentable

NEWS

FROM

DULLIDG-WELLS, &c.

CErtainly the degenerate Nature of Man, when it abandons the Conduct of Reason, and is destitute of Grace, is more savage and bruitish than the wildest Beasts that houl in the Wilderness of *Africk*. Lyons and Bears, VVolves and Tygers, are civil Companions to him; they seldome exercise their ravenous cruelty, unless it be either to satisfie their Hunger, or where they meet with oppositon; and then too, their VVars are not like our uncivil

uncivil civil ones, amongſt themſelves, but againſt ſome other Species, for ſeldome, if ever, do they prey upon thoſe of their own kind: but this fierce untamable Animal, that pretends to Reaſon, not content with an abſolute Tyranny over his fellow Creatures of a lower condition, Butchering them for his Gluttony, and Baiting them for his Vanity, *&c.* does likewiſe extend his Cruelty, to thoſe of his own Rank, and one Man in his Rage and Paſſion, becomes the Murtherer and Deſtroyer of another. But that which is ſtill more ſtrange, is, That a Parent can be ſo hard-hearted to his own Child, that they from whom we received our Life, ſhould be the promoters of our Death; this certainly is the higheſt violation of the Law of Nature, and yet even of this there want not too frequent Examples, and one we have juſt now before us, very near this Famous City, which happen'd as follows.

On Tueſday the ſecond of this inſtant *July*, a perſon that made it his buſineſs to carry *Dullidg*-water to *London*, and there

crying it about the Streets, for their conveniency, that cannot ſpare time to go drink it upon the place; about two of the Clock in the Morning called up his Son, a Lad of about twelve years of age, and ſent him forth to fetch home his Horſe, which he kept for the purpoſe aforeſaid. The Boy ſtayed ſomewhat longer then ordinary, for being wak'd ſo early, 'tis probable he might fall aſleep in the fields; whereupon his Father, who was naturally of a cruel dogged Temper, and always immoderately ſevere to this Child, got up in a rage to look after him, and was ſeen walking furiouſly that way with a huge Cudgel in his hand, with which 'tis judg'd by the ſequel, he perform'd the Inhumane Act, beating the Child ſo cruelly and exceſſively that within an hour or two after it dyed. Nor was he as 'tis believed, content to give him unreaſonable blows with the ſtick, but alſo ſtamp'd upon him with his feet, as by ſeveral Marks that afterwards appear'd on the dead Body, it was reaſonable to conclude.

However,

However after all this Execution 'tis thought he set him up on the horses back to ride home, whilst himself went home another way on foot: for the lad was met by a neighbour, to whom with a weak voice he said, *For Gods sake take me off the horse, else I shall fall down.* The man did set him down on the ground, and went home with the horse, to tell them there of the boys condition. Whereupon the Mother cried out to her Husband, *What have you done, have you killed my childe?* to which he onely answered in a sullen manner, *I have given him sleep enough*, or to that effect; and so taking his horse and water according to his custom, came to *London*, not returning till the afternoon.

In the mean time the boy was found dead, and the Father being questioned for it at his return, pretended that the horse kiket him, and that it must be by that blow that he came by his end, stoutly denying that he had beat him at all, and affirming that he had not been out of doors all that morning; but the contrary being proved; he at last did confess he struck him two or three small blows, but that it was onely with the Bridle. However upon searching and view of the body it was found lamentably bruised and battered; the prints and marks of the blows being visible from the shoulders down to the hips, and all his back thereby black and blue, besides several contusions on the Breast.

There

There were none present that could testify all circumstances, yet there were very violent presumptions, that it was the too excessive Correction of his Father, that brought him to his end, who being before of ill fame, and as 'tis said, formerly burnt in the hand, was thereupon Committed to Prison, where he now remains. 'Tis said, besides these Blows there were furrows in the Childs hips, occasion'd by former immoderate Whippings, so deep, that peasecods (to use the words of some that viewed it) might have been laid in them.

'Tis a sad thing, that men who not only have the help of Reason to restrain them, but call themselves Christians too, should suffer themselves to be transported with furious Passion to such a degree. Most excellent is that advice of the Royal Prophet, Psalm 37. 8. and 11. *Cease from Anger and forsake Wrath; fret not thy self in any wise to do evil: For evil doers shall be cut off. But the Meek shall inherit the Earth.* Under which denomination of *the meek*, we may well comprehend the Merciful. Whence men may learn not to be too rigid, even for just dues, with their Brethren, when they are honest and willing, but poor and unable to make them satisfaction; nothing being more tormenting and grievous to a generous heart, than to be perpetually baited for Money, which it lies not in his present power to raise; as may be seen in the late lamentable Disaster at *Bromley*, by *Bow*: Where

Where a perſon that had lived in good Faſhion and Credit in *Ratcliffe High-way*, being by his Profeſſion a Gunſmith, and one that heretofore had a great Trade, but by Miſfortune failing of receiving his Money of thoſe he dealt with, ſo that he had ſeveral Hundred Pounds owing him, ſome of his Creditors began to be very importunate with him, and he not having ready Money to anſwer their expectation, was ſued to an Execution, and ſome of his Goods ſeized; which made ſuch an impreſſion on his Spirits, that he became aſhamed to appear amongſt his Neighbours, as himſelf, with much trouble of minde, declared the Morning before he deſtroyed himſelf, to his Maid; and in this anguiſh and diſturbance was ſeduced to rid himſelf out of the world: Whereupon putting on a clean Shirt, with a clean Cap and Jack line in his Pocket, he went forth; but it ſeems, not being fully reſolved on the lamentable Act, came to the Houſe of one of his Acquaintance at *Bromley* aforeſaid; where being denied a Lodging, the ſenſe thereof, and the ſhame and confuſion he was in, by the rigid clamours and ſeverity of his Creditors, cauſed him abſolutely to reſolve upon it; ſo that in the Night he hanged himſelf in a *Mulberry* tree, and was there found next Morning, and in his Boſome an Account fairly written and ſtated, both what he owed and what was owing him; whereby it appeared

peared that his Credits did far exceed his Debts, so that he would have been able to have paid every body with a large Overplus, if they had not been so hasty upon him; whereas now both his Life and their Money is lost by their impatience. A remarkable president to all severe, unreasonable people, that will not forbear their honest Debtors for some competent time, but force them to despair by their incessant Clutter, and perplexing Importunities.

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